Ablution (wudoo)



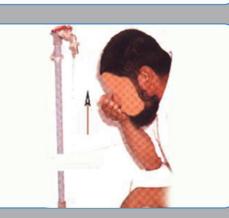
Prayer (salah) is not valid without ablution (wudoo). Ablution must be performed with water that is in its original state, such as water of the sea, wells, springs or rivers.

Note: A small amount of water becomes impure (najis) if it is mixed with a substance deemed as impure. A large quantity of water, about 210 liters, does not become impure if it is mixed with a substance deemed impure unless it has changed its taste, or color or smell.



One should begin the wudoo by saying "Bismillah" (In the name of Allah) and it is preferred that one washes his hands every time he makes wudoo. One who awakens from a night's sleep must wash his hands three times.

Note: It is disliked to wash any part of the body in wudoo more than three times each.



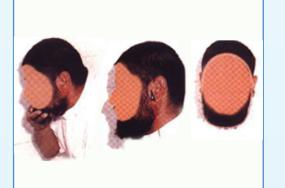
Then it is obligatory that one rinses the mouth (madmadah) once, while three times is better.

Note: It is not enough to merely place water in one's mouth when rinsing it. Rather, water must actually be swirled around in the mouth. It is deemed a beloved act to use the siwak.



It is obligatory that one rinse their nose by sniffing in water and blowing it out once To do so three times is better.

Note: Merely sniffing the water up into the nose is not enough, the water must be blown out and not removed by the hand.



Then he should wash his face once, while three times is better. The boundaries of the face are from ear to ear in horizontally and from the hairline of the head to the chin in vertically.

Note: It is obligatory to run one's fingers through the beard if it is thick, while praiseworthy if it is light.



Then he washes both hands from the tip of the fingers up to the elbows once, while three times is better.

Note: It is preferred to wash the right hand before the left.



Then he wipes over the entire head including the ears. He puts his index finger into the ear and wipes, and uses his thumbs to wipe outside. This is all done only once.

Notes: 1- The obligatory part of the head to be wiped is from the front hair-line of the forehead to the nape of the neck (where the hair ends). 2- It is not obligatory to wipe the entire length of ones hair if it is long. 3- One should wipe the scalp if there is no hair on the head. 4- One must wipe the hairless area on the head behind the ears.



Then he washes the feet up to just above the ankles once, but three times is better.

Notes:

- 1) The parts for washing in wudoo are four
- a) The face with madmadah and istinshaaq;
- b) The hands and arms;
- c) Wiping of the head and ears;
- d) The feet up to just above the ankles.

One must perform these acts in sequence.

- 2) One must wash the body parts continuously without any pausing. One must not delay doing so until the previous part dries.
- 3) It is a beloved act to say after the wudoo, "Ash-hadu alla ilaaha illallah wahÿ dahu la shareeka lahu wa ash-hadu anna Muhammdan 'abduhu wa rasuluh" (I testify that there is none that has the right to be worshipped except Allah alone, without partners, and I testify that Muhammad is His slave and Messenger) and to pray two raka'ah.